networking luncheon

Chinook Enterprises

The Chinook Enterprises chamber is proud to bring back Galen Emanuele from the Ryan Stiles’ Upfront Theatre in Bellingham at our next luncheon on May 10 at 11:30 am! Galen uses principles from Upfront Theatre’s “BizProv” workshops which incorporate principles of improv. These principles allow individuals to be better communicators, have more confidence and to be quick thinkers enabling them to develop better relationship building and interpersonal skills for business. Galen has been performing and teaching improv for 8 years and is the Marketing & Sales Director at the Upfront Theatre.

This luncheon is brought to you by Chinook Enterprises, a non-profit organization that was started by Rob Martin in 1980. Chinook is considered a social enterprise company, which means they are designed to operate like a business but with a social mission: supporting full participation in community life for people with disabilities or other barriers. Chinook assists people with disabilities with employment either in community businesses or in one of the four business units that Chinook operates.

Bring your marketing materials and a gift for the give-away! The luncheon is scheduled for May 10, 2012, from 11:30 am -1:00 pm at the Anacortes Lutheran Church at 22nd & O. Please RSVP to the chamber.

business after hours

Edward Jones/Petite Wine Bar

Join us on May 17 for the Business After Hours at Petite Wine Bar co-hosted by Jeff Pleet, Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Petite Wine Bar is located within Islands Inn. Enjoy unique menu offerings inspired by global flavors accompanied by a growing variety of regional and international wines and beers. Join them in the casual and charming ambiance of their dining room conveniently located adjacent the Islands Inn lobby, or request your meal to go.

As a Financial Advisor with Edward Jones, Jeff Pleet specializes in working with individuals and small business owners to help secure their financial future. Prior to joining Edward Jones, Jeff was a Senior Vice President, Retirement Plans Manager for a major mutual fund family, where he specialized in designing and implementing 401(k) and other retirement plans for corporations and non-profit organizations. His office is located at 630 SE Midway Blvd., Oak Harbor, WA 98277

The Thursday, May 17 Business After Hours will be held in Petite Wine Bar at 3401 Commercial Ave, where we will enjoy yummy treats and a no-host wine bar. Please RSVP to the chamber at 293-7911.
Dear Chamber Members,

Spring has sprung and we are in the midst of all the beautiful flowers and events that accompany the warmer weather and the beginning of the boating season.

I would like to present to you a few thoughts passed along from Heather Miller (Read Me A Story) from the retail trades division of the chamber, although, I feel that these issues are universal throughout our membership.

We choose to live in Anacortes for many different reasons but what we all have in common is a feeling that we are “home” here. We want to embrace the unique local character of our business core.

This means that buying locally is more than a slogan—it is a value that keeps our community alive and vibrant and desirable.

In this time of 24 hour internet access and endless possibilities of choice combined with a tough economy, it is understandable that customers would want to spend their dollars where they believe they are getting the best value. But what if that “best value” is spending the dollars right here at home?

Our local businesses supply the taxable retail sales that support our city government, our schools, fire department, police department, local charities, service clubs, and our neighbors.

Our lovely downtown is the focus of our identity. Imagine driving down Commercial Avenue where there were empty storefronts, no restaurants, no flower baskets, no tree lights in the winter. Where there are no people walking the sidewalks and meeting friends.

Our local businesses are constantly providing support to our school events, sports teams, local theater, and service groups, where do they get the funds for that? It is because you have chosen to support them! This is great value.

We are hearing a lot about buy local campaigns lately. What can you do? Commit to spending just $50 a month at a business (or three) you love and want to see continue to thrive. This is an investment in your own quality of life here in Anacortes.

Encourage the values you want reflected in our community each time you spend a dollar, weigh the full value of your choice, for the future of our hometown of Anacortes.

Buy Local! Support Yourself!

—Kristi Gabrielse

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tourism

Anacortes participates in Arcade Lights event

Over the past year we have worked on building our relationships in the greater Seattle area to include the Pike Place Market. Earlier this spring we were invited to participate in the second annual Arcade Lights, an event executed by the market for funding purposes. Attendees are limited to 1200 people from around the Seattle metro area with a strong traveler demographic.

The event highlights the tastes around the sound to include Sweet/Savory and Beer and/or Wine with the purpose of attendees to vote on the “best of.” Anacortes was represented in all three categories for the night’s event (Beer or Wine: Rockfish Grill/Anacortes Brewery; Savory: Gere-a-Deli; Sweet: Le Crema) and came close to winning a category.

We represented in true Anacortes style bringing our own Town Crier, Rich Riddell. Rich was a real hit being the presenter of the winning categories and the top person to be photographed with during the night all the while boasting cries of our beautiful city’s greatness.

Left: Rich Riddell, Pike Place Board member Jill Andrews and Buddy, a market resident in the Stewart House. Right: Anacortes booth at Arcade Lights.
Leonard and Nema Johnson opened American Dream Real Estate Services, Inc. in August of 2002. This year marks their ten year anniversary in business and they are both proud and excited to be celebrating ten successful years! Leonard and his family relocated to Anacortes after vacationing here many times, because they fell in love with Fidalgo Island. Leonard has been involved in real estate sales and business management for more than 20 years. American Dream Real Estate Service is your full service agency with a staff that will help you with a home, condo, land or commercial purchase or sale. They work together as a team to provide you with the ultimate real estate experience. Thank you Anacortes for ten great years!

American Dream

All-County Chamber Business After Hours

Wednesday, May 9 • 5:00 pm–7:30 pm
Swinomish Casino & Lodge
(Enter through the 100% smoke-free Lodge)

Bring Door Prizes!

Grand Prize from the Swinomish Casino & Lodge:
One night’s stay in a suite with dinner for two at 13 Moons

RSVP to only one chamber (for those of you who are members of multiple chambers)

2012 Ambassadors

Josh Baldwin—Quantum Construction
Carla Cummins—All About Honeymoons & Vacations
Lara Dunning—Gems, LLC
Jim Gordon—Freedom Wireless Media, Inc.
Jack Hamilton—Labor Ready, Inc.
Barry Harter—Central Payment Corporation
Jan Hersey—Biz Point Communications
Debra Jones—Individual Member
Kari Kennedy—KeyBank
Tara Milas—Massage Therapy
Yolonda Norman de Fernandez—Amigo Trails—Copper Canyon Specialist
Leileah Petty—Farmers Insurance
Jeffery Pleet, CLU, ChFC—Edward Jones—Jeffery Pleet
Therese Rudzis—Individual Member
Mary Staley—Marketing with Mary
Sandy Swartos—DuoDesign, LLC
Boyd Veer—Seaside Autobody & Accessories
John Williams—Skagit Publishing
2012 Wine Festival

Anacortes Sister Cities Association Doyle Geer Golf Tournament

On Saturday, June 23, golfers from Anacortes and surrounding areas will tee it up for the annual Anacortes Sister Cities Association (ASCA) Doyle Geer Golf Tournament at Similk Beach Golf Course in Anacortes. This is always a fun, exciting, and well-attended event.

The Grand Prize for the winning team this year is a round of golf for all four team members at Similk Beach and a $50 restaurant gift certificate for each team member. A $10,000 Hole-In-One prize will be possible on Hole 2. In addition, there is a $5000 prize for a putting contest. This year, again, will feature a Senior Team Prize (all players must be over 70). A packet is available that explains all of the guidelines, the golfer application, and a sponsor application as well. The packet also includes information about the history and programs of ASCA.

This is ASCA’s major fund-raising event and many of ASCA’s programs are successful in large part because of the funds raised by this tournament. The Anacortes students participating in the Nikaho (formerly Kisakata), Japan student exchange always receive a good financial boost toward the cost of their travel expenses. Programs relating to the other Sister Cities (Lomonosov, Russia, Sidney BC, Canada, and Vela Luka, Croatia) are also beneficiaries from this event.

If you have any questions regarding the ASCA Doyle Geer Golf Tournament or about the Anacortes Sister Cities Association, contact Duane Clark by phone (360 293-8088) or email (dclark@capsantecourt.com). ASCA’s website is www.AnacortesSisterCities.com.

Sher-E-Panjab celebrated its opening with owners Jaspreet and Sukwinder Gill and family, with Mayor Dean Maxwell, chamber executive director Stephanie Hamilton and ambassadors, Yolonda (Amigo Trails) and Josh Baldwin (Quantum Construction). Sher-E-Panjab is located at 2120 Commercial Avenue.
Your Anacortes American print subscription now includes premium access to local news and online-only content from your computer, tablet or mobile device.

Visit goanacortes.com!

ANACORTES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

VEHICLE & VESSEL LICENSING

Come see us for all your vehicle or vessel needs!
Registration renewals, title transfers, disabled parking placards, monthly tonnage, trip permits, dealer work

819 COMMERCIAL AVE STE. B
ANACORTE, WA 98221
(360) 293-5533

Do you have a beautiful garden or plant spectacular containers?
Enter your display in this year’s Blooming Anacortes contest.

While evaluating displays, competition judges will consider the following:
• Effective use of color including texture/foliage
• Sense of design, personality
• Plant heath and maintenance
• Ecological: water-wise, inviting to wildlife
• Year-round interest
• Interesting and creative architectural features

Judging will be the last week of July for this first annual competition to recognize those who do your part to beautify our community. Call the chamber to be entered.

ANACORTES WATERFRONT FESTIVAL KICK-OFF DINNER
FRIDAY, JUNE 1ST 6:00 P.M.
AT THE PORT OF ANACORTES TRANSIT SHED

Great fun! Great food! Great band!
Join us on the dock to honor our Port Partners. Sponsor a table or buy your tickets at the door. TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW.
Call or e-mail Julie at the Port for information and to reserve your seats!
(360) 299-1804  julie@portofanacortes.com

Dining and Dancing on the waterfront

Featuring northwest sensations “The Walrus”

Sign up for Summer Artwalk 2012

Friday, June 1 from 6 pm to 9 pm and Saturday, June 2 from 10 am to 5 pm.
(This is Waterfront Festival Weekend also)

To sign up, please fill out the form and return it to The Framemaker with a check made out to the Chamber of Commerce for $20. The fee pays for the advertising and the poster. Each merchant should find their own artist and have the work hung and tagged by Thursday, May 31. We would like you to find an artist to do a demonstration on Saturday, June 2 from Noon—2pm if possible. If you have any questions, call Kathy Khile at 293-6938.

Form must be returned to The Framemaker by Monday, April 30

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<th>Business:</th>
<th>Contact:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Artist:</td>
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<td>Medium:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Are you interested in participating in the Holiday Artwalk, Dec. 7 &amp; 8?</td>
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<td>__________</td>
<td>Paid contribution: $20 payable to the Anacortes Chamber of Commerce</td>
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ambassador profile

Yolonda

Yolonda recently relocated to Anacortes direct from Mexico where she owns three Mexico tourism based companies; Amigo Trails—a tour operator that creates customized vacation packages through the Copper Canyon; The 3 Amigos—a rental outfitter; and We Are One Travel—a travel agency specializing in travel throughout Mexico.

When asked why she chose Anacortes to relocate to after 12 years in Mexico, she replied, “I used to work as an adventure trek leader all over the USA and Canada and never found anywhere that I loved more than this area. Anacortes in particular just seems to have it all; water everywhere, beautiful mountains and forests, low crime, great schools, the list just goes on and on.”

Yolonda has really enjoyed being an Ambassador with the chamber and has relished meeting business owners and connecting with everyone at the various social functions around town. She finds the community charming, the town picturesque and looks forward to meeting even more people as summer draws closer and brings people out of doors more often.

When not working at her home office in Old Town, Yolonda enjoys taking walks or biking around the Island with her eleven year old son, Sebastian, and her husband, Ivan, who is a professional photographer, historian and expert guide in Mexico.

Fun fact: Yolonda has a degree in Audio Engineering and has worked in the audio medium from Nashville to Vegas on film sets, in post production, studio recording, concerts, radio and television.

new members

A TOWN BISTRO
418 Commercial Avenue
Anacortes, WA 98221
(360) 899-4001
Libby
fidalgofoods@live.com
Restaurant

INTEGRITY MARINE
2900 T Avenue, Suite I
Anacortes, WA 98221
(360) 770-8455
Carl Koals
1integritymarine@gmail.com
Marine Repair & Service

RECREATE COUNSELING
1909 Skyline Way, Suite 103
Anacortes, WA 98221
(360) 873-8662
Katie Eastman
kateas@gmail.com
jbswain1@gmail.com
Counseling

FIDALGO ISLAND WRITERS GUILD
13207 Satterlee Road
Anacortes, WA 98221
(509) 670-2460
fidalgoislandwritersguild.wordpress.com
Ronda Franklin
fidalgoislandwritersguild@gmail.com
Writers Guild

SKAGIT SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS LLC
3211 Oakes Avenue
Anacortes, WA 98221
(360) 391-3188
www.skagitsoftwaresolutions.com
Beth Meenaghan
bethmeenaghan@gmail.com
Computer - Business Networking

UNITED WAY OF SKAGIT COUNTY
PO Box 451
Burlington, WA 98233
(360) 755-9521
unitedwayskagit.org
Debra Lancaster
lynne@unitedwayskagit.org
Non-Profit Agency

DRINA MCCORKLE @ JOHN L. SCOTT REAL ESTATE
3201 Commercial Avenue
Anacortes, WA 98221
(360) 661-4472
http://www.drinamccorkle.com
Drina McCorkle
drina@drinamccorkle.com
Real Estate Broker

MAD HATTER’S ICE CREAM
801 6th Street
Anacortes, WA 98221
(360) 755-3799
Gary Dear
g.r.dear@comcast.net

member renewals

BUSINESS
- Alice Bohnker Insurance Services, LLC
- Alpha Appraisal
- Alternative Inbound Marketing
- Anacortes Automotive
- Anacortes Construction Services LLC
- Bill Bethards, D.D.S. P.S.
- Birch Equipment
- Wallie Funk
- Gary Jacobson Attorney
- Gems, LLC
- Greysam Industrial Services
- H & R Block
- Holiday Motel
- Irishman Enterprises
- Island Electric & Supply, Inc.
- Jennings Chiropractic, Inc., P.S.
- Kirk Kennedy
- Lighthouse Park R.V. Park & Mini Storage
- Lopez Islander Bay Resort & Marina
- McGregor Benefits
- Mount Vernon Carpet One Floor and Home
- Pacific Design Screen Printing
- Read Me A Story
- Rosario Skin Clinic
- Serenity By The Sea
- Strandberg Construction, INC
- Summit Assistance Dogs
- Susie’s Moped Rentals, Inc.
- The Island Chicks
- Turk’s Head
- United Way of Skagit County
Anacortes named a “Tree City USA”

Anacortes was recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA community for the 11th year for its commitment to urban forestry. Mayor Maxwell was congratulated in a letter from the Arbor Day Foundation, which stated that “residents of Anacortes should take pride in the fact they live in a community where planting and nurturing trees is a priority.”

Anacortes met the four standards to become a Tree City USA: must have a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, a comprehensive community forestry program and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

Can you feel it? Relay For Life of Anacortes is coming. It’ll be here sooner than you think.

Our next Team Rally is Thursday May 17th 6:30-7:30 PM
Gere-a-Deli 502 Commercial Avenue

For more information about Relay For Life or The American Cancer Society please contact:
2012 Relay For Life Event Chair
Chris.L.Zimmerman@tsocorp.com
www RelayForLife.org/AnacortesWA
www.Cancer.org
1-800-227-2345

Luminaria’s represent those dear to us that are still fighting or have lost the fight and are being remembered.

So here’s a question that can provide a multitude of answers…

Why do you Relay?

Is it for a loved one, a friend or a neighbor?

Or perhaps it’s for the people you meet everyday that fight in silence?

So start thinking about Purple, because Purple is the color of HOPE.

We are a strong community and we are all connected because Cancer has touched us all in some way.

Find us on Facebook

DOES YOUR FINANCIAL ADVISOR KNOW YOUR FINANCIAL GOALS? IF NOT LET’S TALK.
Jeffery C Pleot
Financial Advisor
630 Southeast Midway Boulevard
Oak Harbor, WA 98277
360-679-2558

www.edwardjones.com Member SIPC

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Executive Board

PRESIDENT
Kristi Gabrielse  Ana-Cross Stitch

PRESIDENT ELECT
Kathy Larson  Puget Sound Energy

TREASURER
Mark Lawrence  Simply Yards

PAST PRESIDENT
Mark Bunzel  Fine Edge Nautical & Recreational Publishing

BOARD MEMBER AT LARGE
Matt Miller  Read Me A Story

Board of Directors

Robert Atterberry  Bob's Chowder Bar & BBQ Salmon
Karin Baldwin  Quantum Construction
Jody Barnett  Shell Puget Sound Refinery
Bela Berghuys  Islands Inn
Chris Borgen  Anacortes School District
Duane Clark  Cap Sante Court Retirement Community
Peggy Flynn  pflynn+associates
Brian Geer  KeyBank
Bob Hyde  Port of Anacortes
Dean Maxwell  City of Anacortes
Vince Oliver  Island Hospital
Curt Oppel  John L. Scott Real Estate
John Pope  Tesoro Refining & Marketing Co.
Mary E. Staley  Marketing With Mary
Chris Terrell  How It Works

Chamber Staff

Stephanie Hamilton  Executive Director
Mary Talosi  Visitor Information & Operations Director
Cecile Miller  Event & Communications Coordinator
Leah Hines  Marketing & Promotions Coordinator
Kristi Daniels & Crystal Johnson  Licensing Sub-Agents

Photography by Steve Berentson
Newsletter designed by Linda J. McGuire

vic (visitor information center) statistics

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Thank you, volunteers!  Volunteer Hours: 284  Visit us on the web at www.anacortes.org

Waterfront Festival

Milk Carton Derby!  Model Boat Show!  Heritage House!

Anacortes Paddlefest!  Corvette Car Show!  Boat Rides!

Discovery Channel!  Custom Classic Car Show!

June 2 & 3, 2012

Quick & Dirty Boat Building Demonstration!

Sailboat Regatta!  SWAP MEET!  2 Days of Fun Fun Fun

Live Music!  High Tide!  Children's Area!  Ride!

Coastin' Hangout.

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